

**To:** Garvin, Shawn[garvin.shawn@epa.gov]; Capacasa, Jon[Capacasa.jon@epa.gov]; Melvin, Karen[Melvin.Karen@epa.gov]; binetti, victoria[binetti.victoria@epa.gov]; Arguto, William[Arguto.William@epa.gov]; Matlock, Dennis[Matlock.Dennis@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Ryan, Daniel[Ryan.Daniel@epa.gov]; D'Andrea, Michael[DANDREA.MICHAEL@EPA.GOV]  
**From:** Hodgkiss, Kathy  
**Sent:** Thur 2/6/2014 3:52:04 PM  
**Subject:** Re: WV - breaking - another school dismisses with water problems

ATSDR will reply to this momentarily. Thanks

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**From:** Garvin, Shawn  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 06, 2014 10:20:50 AM  
**To:** Hodgkiss, Kathy; Capacasa, Jon; Melvin, Karen; binetti, victoria; Arguto, William; Matlock, Dennis  
**Cc:** Ryan, Daniel; D'Andrea, Michael  
**Subject:** Re: WV - breaking - another school dismisses with water problems

One more thing - can someone send me the list of symptoms of MCHM and who they were developed by? Thx

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**From:** Garvin, Shawn  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 06, 2014 10:15:34 AM  
**To:** Hodgkiss, Kathy; Capacasa, Jon; Melvin, Karen; binetti, victoria; Arguto, William; Matlock, Dennis  
**Cc:** Ryan, Daniel; D'Andrea, Michael  
**Subject:** Fw: WV - breaking - another school dismisses with water problems

Do we have any additional information on this or the status of the two schools from yesterday? Thx

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**From:** Ferrell, Mark  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 06, 2014 10:03:42 AM  
**To:** Garvin, Shawn  
**Cc:** Capacasa, Jon; Arguto, William; Burns, Francis; binetti, victoria; Miller, Linda; Seneca, Roy; White, Terri-A; schaffer, joan; Ryan, Daniel; D'Andrea, Michael; Matlock, Dennis; Casillas, Laura; Snyder, Raquel; Smith, Bonnie  
**Subject:** WV - breaking - another school dismisses with water problems

<http://www.charlestondaily.com/News/breakingnews/201402060030>

Thursday February 6, 2014

J.E. Robins to close early for water quality issues

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- J.E. Robins Elementary School on Charleston's West Side will close at 10 a.m. today due to water quality concerns.

A woman who answered the phone at the school Wednesday morning said the school was closing because of "a little odor down in the kitchen." Kanawha County Schools Superintendent Ron Duerring clarified the odor was that of licorice.

by Marcus Constantino  
Daily Mail Staff  
Advertiser

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -- J.E. Robins Elementary School on Charleston's West Side will close at 10 a.m. today due to water quality concerns.

A woman who answered the phone at the school Wednesday morning said the school was closing because of "a little odor down in the kitchen." Kanawha County Schools Superintendent Ron Duerring clarified the odor was that of licorice.

"Cooks were using the dishwasher and they smelled a licorice smell," Duerring said. "We made them stop using the dishwasher and we're going to dismiss the kids at 10."

Duerring said a cook's eyes were reportedly burning. Burning eyes and a licorice odor are both indicators of the presence of crude MCHM, the coal-cleaning chemical that spilled into the Elk River on Jan. 9 and contaminated West Virginia American Water's Charleston treatment facility that provides tap water to some 300,000 West Virginians.

Duerring said "normal protocol" will be followed, which includes notifying the health department, re-flushing the school's water pipes and having the water at the school re-sampled for crude MCHM.

Midland Trail Elementary and Riverside High schools closed early Wednesday after flushing at those schools -- prompted by a water main break in the area -- produced a strong licorice odor in the buildings, causing some students and teachers to become ill.

Both eastern Kanawha schools remained closed to teachers and students today, as well.

Mark Ferrell

EPA Region 3

Office of State and Congressional Relations

West Virginia Liaison

Charleston, W.Va.

(304) 542-0231

